



The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the NH Department of Environmental Services

November 2012

The Municipal EcoLink, is a monthly e-bulletin designed to inform you of the latest environmental ideas, trends, grants, rules and more from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES). We respectfully request that the following is electronically distributed or otherwise made available to your municipal committees, councils and boards. Please feel free to post it on your municipal website as well. Read *Municipal EcoLink* at:
<http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/newsletters/ecolink/index.htm>

Used Oil Workshop for Transfer Station Operators

Millions of gallons of used oil are generated in New Hampshire each year, and much of it is collected and managed at town transfer stations. Due to the potential for spills and improper burning, correct handling of used oil and other fluids is important to protecting public health and the environment. DES is offering a workshop to assist transfer station operators and other responsible officials in managing these materials on Dec. 7, 8:30-11:30 a.m., in Concord. The workshop meets the continuing education requirement for solid waste operator certification renewal. Register by contacting Nelson Ordway, DES, at nelson.ordway@des.nh.gov or call (603) 271-2925. Priority registration will be given to certified solid waste operators, but others may attend if space is available.

Updating State Water and Sewer Line GIS Data Layer

The DES Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau is updating the state's digital maps of water and sewer line distribution areas for municipalities and community water systems. Having updated digital water and sewer line maps helps DES assess infrastructure needs, respond to emergencies and enhance planning efforts. Look for notices requesting your system's digital water and sewer line coverage soon. In cases where this information is not available digitally, DES staff will work with systems to ensure map accuracy. For questions, please contact Jennifer Rowden, DES Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau, at (603) 271-0657 or jennifer.rowden@des.nh.gov.

DES Road Salt Reduction Initiative

Are you ready for snow and winter conditions this year? The DES Road Salt Reduction Initiative announces the UNH Technology Transfer Center's New Hampshire Green SnoPro Certification training to be held on December 6th at the Derry Municipal offices. Chloride from road salt pollutes ground water and streams. The training will review the environmental impacts of chlorides and train municipal and private plow and salt truck operators on how to use winter maintenance materials to provide safe roads and parking lots, while protecting the environment. More information at:
<http://t2.unh.edu/sites/t2.unh.edu/files/documents/training/green%20snow%20pro%20120612.pdf> . For more information about winter maintenance practices and salt use, visit the DES Road Salt Reduction Initiative website at: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/was/salt-reduction-initiative/index.htm> .

Private Well Owners: Learn about your well in 15 minutes a week.

The Private Well Class is a free, step-by-step education program to help private well owners understand groundwater basics, well care best practices, and how to find assistance to ensure their water remains safe to drink. The program combines 10 weekly email lessons with optional live webinar events during which the material will be reinforced and there will be opportunities to ask questions. For more information, visit The Private Well Class website at www.privatewellclass.org. Please share this information with the private well owners in your town.

New Resources Available for Stormwater Utilities in New Hampshire

Many New Hampshire municipalities are exploring stormwater utilities as a sustainable option for funding their stormwater management programs. Stormwater utilities are similar to the dedicated municipal funds for public water and sewer utilities. A new DES website focusing on lessons learned from New Hampshire stormwater utility feasibility case studies is now available at:
<http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/stormwater/utilities.htm#utilfeas> For more information, contact Barbara McMillan, DES Watershed Assistance Section barbara.mcmillan@des.nh.gov, (603) 559-1517

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